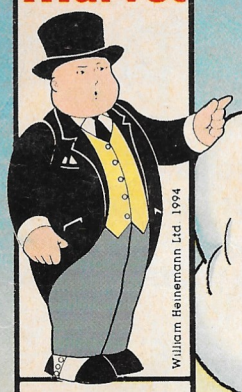
Marvel



William Heinemann Ltd 1994

26th Aug. '94
No179 65p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdrey.

GREAT CANOE RACE

Win a Thomas Book...

Or a Bassett's Goody Bag Inside!

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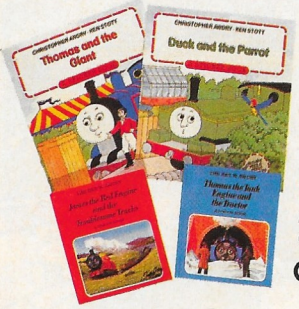
NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! Thomas has always been a very helpful engine! His driver can rely on him in the most difficult situations. Read our first story and discover how Thomas helps the canoeists! In our second story, you can meet Mavis, the new diesel engine. She is enjoying her work with Toby on the quarry line, until the troublesome trucks arrive! What will she do? *Peep! Peep!*

OUR COMPETITIONS!



On page 7, you have the chance to win a set of picture books courtesy of Reed Children's Books, in the 2nd part of our competition.

Turn to page 12 and win a Bassett's Jelly Babies 'goody bag', featuring the Jellytown Boardgame.

Win a Thomas Projector, in our next issue!

How to obtain your Fat Controller's Card!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid Fat Controller's Card send one red, yellow and blue token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer) plus a stamped addressed envelope to The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Postcode .....

Age .....

THOMAS TOKEN

ABC AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS CONSUMER PRESS

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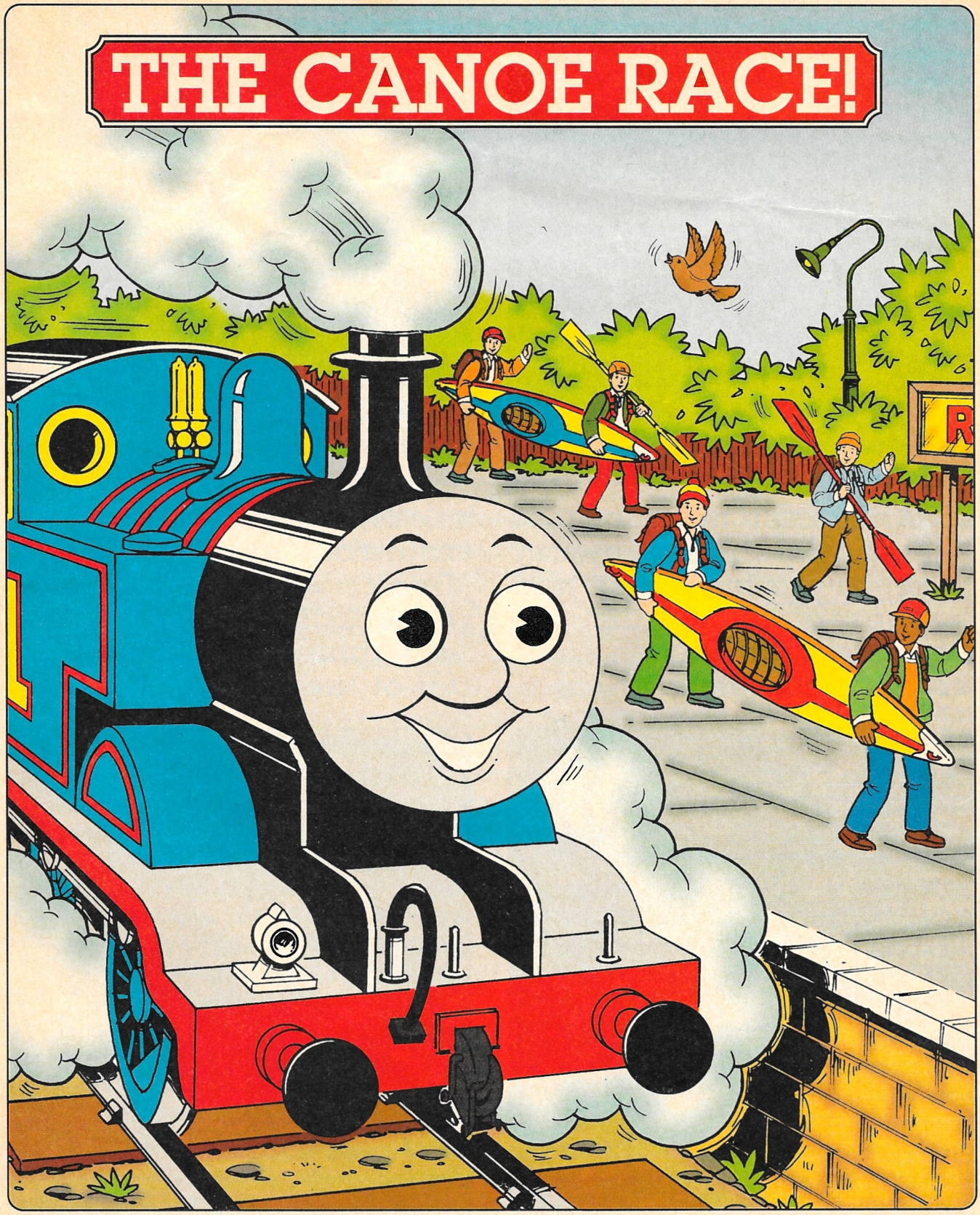
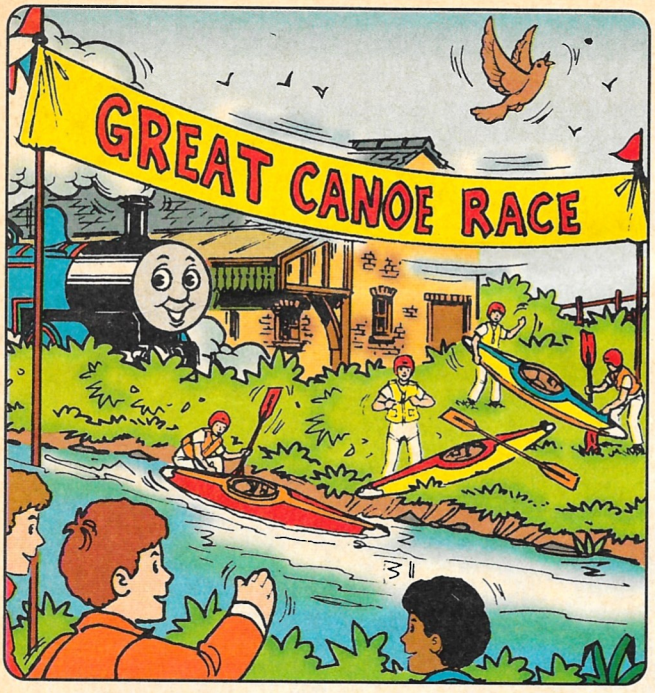
THE CANOE RACE!



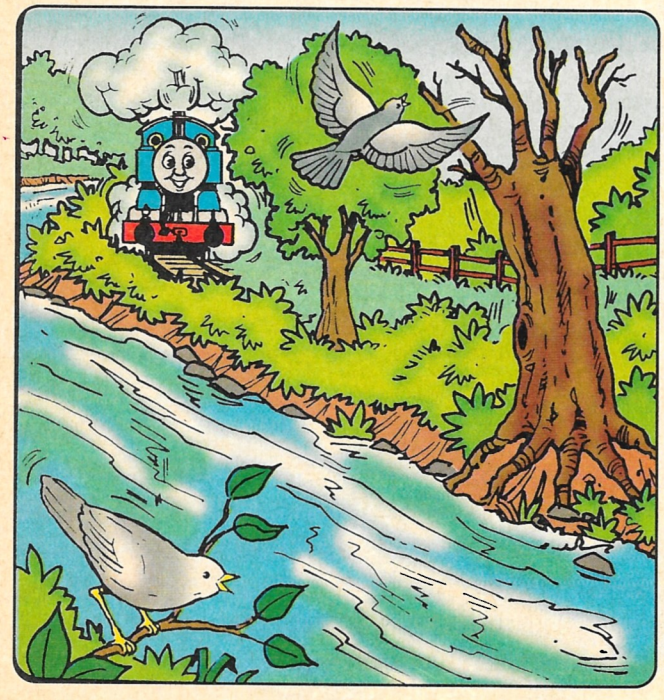
1. It was the day of the Great Canoe Race on the Island of Sodor. Thomas carried the competitors and their canoes to a station near the river.

2. "How exciting!" Thomas said, pleased he was being a Really Useful Engine. When he arrived, everyone unloaded their canoes and took them to the start.

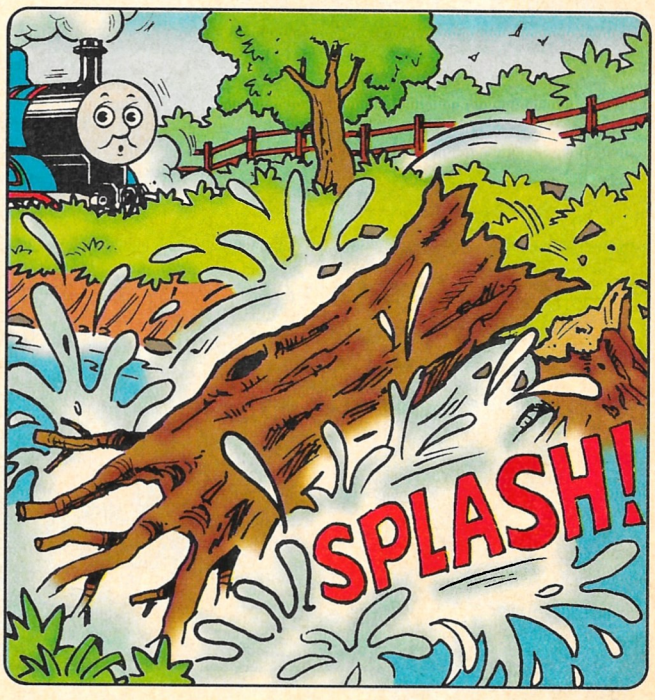


3. A banner hung across the foamy, fast flowing river. And a big crowd had gathered to watch the canoeists putting on their jackets and helmets.

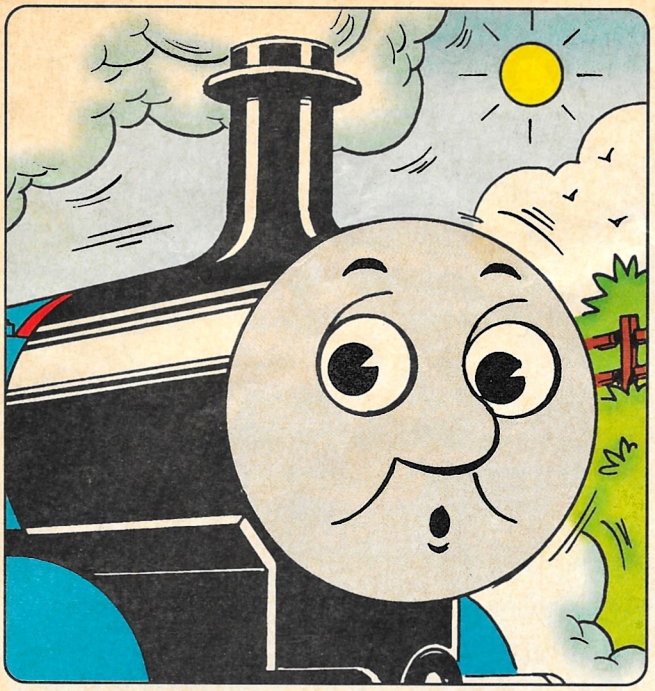
4. "No wonder! It looks dangerous!" gasped Thomas. "Don't worry!" his driver replied. "The canoeists are well-trained!" Thomas rolled out of the station.



5. Thomas was too busy to stay and watch the race. But as he steamed round a bend, the line ran by the river. Suddenly, there was a sharp cracking noise.

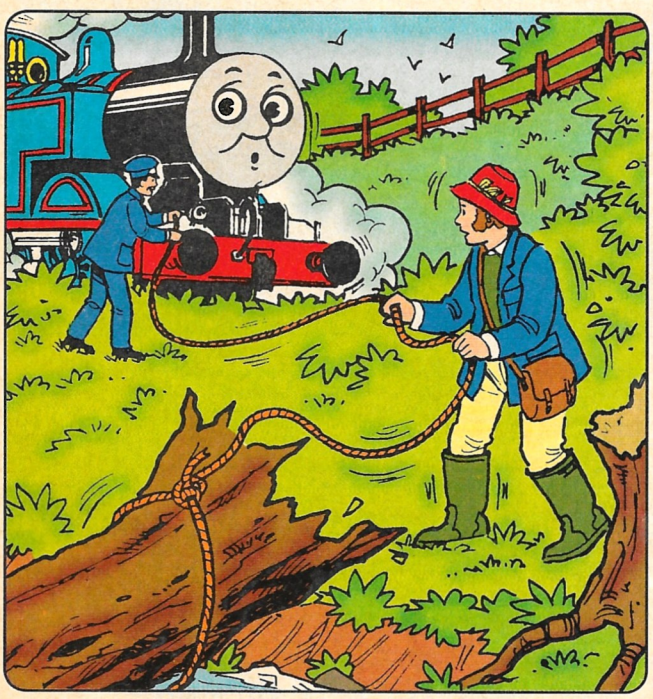


6. An old tree overhanging the riverbank had split and fallen into the water with a mighty SPLASH! Luckily, there was no one nearby.

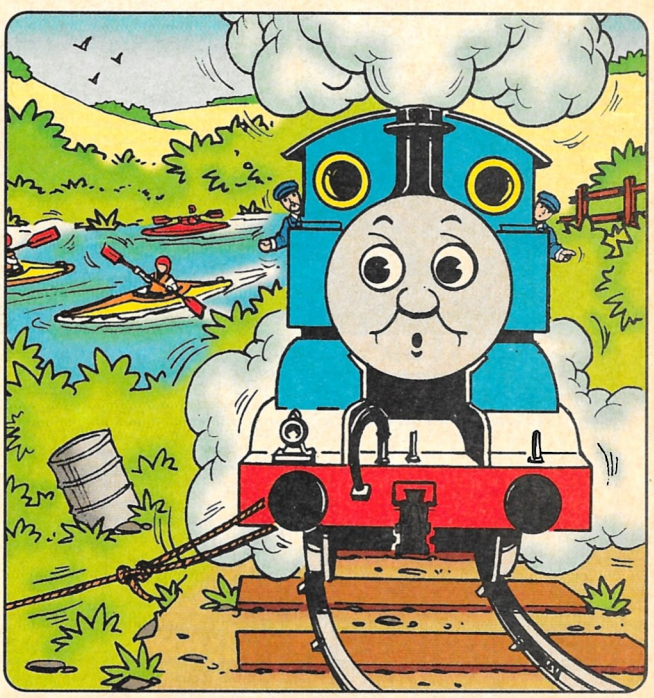


7. "Smoke and fire!" cried Thomas. "It's blocking the river and the race is due to start!" "We must find a way to warn those canoeists," called his driver.

8. Thomas stopped at once and his driver jumped out of the cab and ran to speak to a fisherman further up the bank. "We need help, and quickly!" cried the driver.



9. The fisherman produced some strong rope and they tied it to the fallen tree. They fixed the other end to Thomas's buffer just as the first canoe appeared.



10. Thomas's driver climbed back into the cab just as lots more canoes came into sight. "Hurry, Thomas," he said, "we must pull the tree out of the river or the race will stop!"

11. "I must do it!" hissed Thomas as, blowing steam, he rolled back so the rope went taut. The tree was very heavy. Closer and closer came the canoes. Then with a last heave the tree started to move. It was clear of the water and safely on the riverbank just in time to let the canoes through.

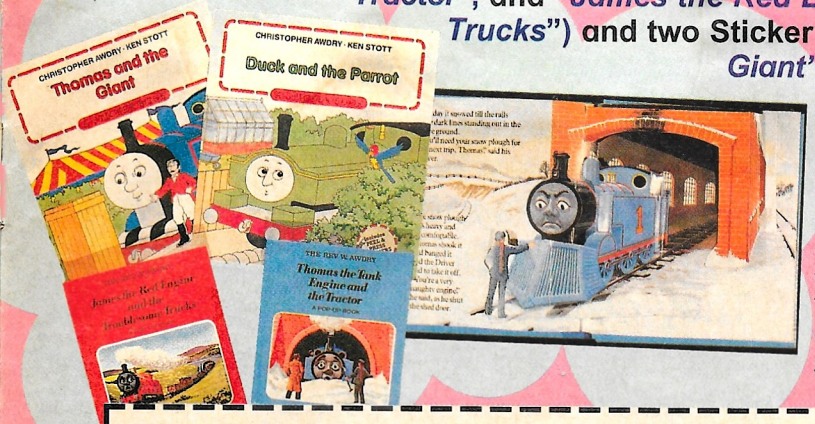
12. Everyone cheered as the canoeists sped safely past. The race organisers thanked Thomas for all his help. "The river must have gradually washed away the earth from the tree's roots causing it to fall!" said Thomas's driver. "What a time for it to happen!" "At least I saw the canoe race!" smiled Thomas. **THE END**

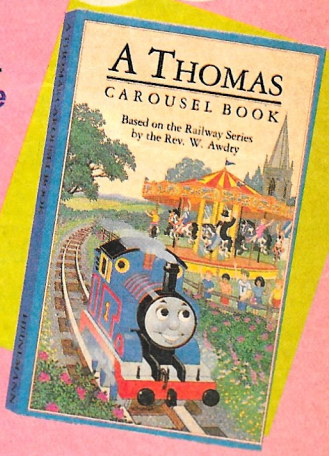
In our next issue: Thomas and the toys!

WIN A BOOK!

Part Two

It's time to win some fantastic picture books! We are giving away 10 sets of Thomas Books, including a beautiful Thomas Carousel Book, two Pop-Up Books ("*Thomas the Tank Engine and the Tractor*", and "*James the Red Engine and the Troublesome Trucks*") and two Sticker Books ("*Thomas and the Giant*", and "*Duck and the Parrot*").





How to win your Book set!
Answer the question: **What type of engine is Mavis?** in the entry form provided, including your full name and address, and send it along with your token No.1 from our last issue, to Thomas Book Set Competition, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13/15 Arundel St. London WC2R 3DX by September 9th 1994.

What type of engine is Mavis? .....

Name ..... **Address**.....

..... **Post Code** .....

Rules: This competition is open to all readers other than employees of Marvel Comics Ltd., and Reed Children's Books. No responsibility can be accepted for any prizes lost or damaged in the post. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

MAKE SUMMER READING FUN

Your Newsagent will have given you a Lucky Number leaflet "Make Summer reading Fun!" If one of the numbers below matches the number on the leaflet, YOU ARE A WINNER! Ask your parent/guardian to help you. The leaflet shows how to claim prizes.

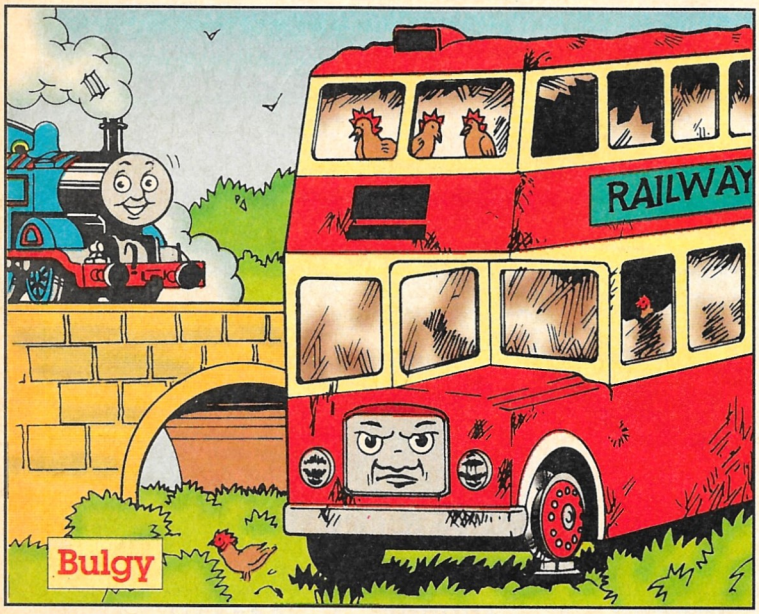
403006	416192	425506	438025	441119
456358	461874	479850	488511	492134
507354	518693	529720	534930	542711
556503	564261	572642	582006	598995
605656	611688	621614	636830	647265
652764	666276	674191	686025	690784
709537	716462	727672	731982	748414
751238	769568	773642	784638	799394
809689	814422	827306	835405	842907
855739	864299	878667	888125	897197

GOOD LUCK!

Please note: **This competition is for the Northern Region only.** Only areas round Bangor, Birkenhead, Blackpool, Bolton, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Stockport, Stoke -On-Trent and Sunderland are taking part, If you are unsure ask your Newsagent.

THOMAS AND BULGY!

Whenever Thomas and the other engines puffed over one particular bridge on the Fat Controller's railway, they saw Bulgy standing dirty and battered below. He was a bad-tempered double-decker bus whose motor no longer worked. Instead of carrying passengers, Bulgy was now used as a hen-house.



One morning, Thomas waited on the bridge for a signal to change.

"Hello, Bulgy!" he called. "If you hadn't run off with railway passengers and crashed under this low bridge, you'd still be a working bus!"

"It's true! I thought buses were better than engines," sighed Bulgy sadly. "But I've learned my lesson!"

Later at the Main Station yard, Thomas spoke to the others.

"It's a shame about Bulgy. I'm sure he's lonely without people to carry."

"Perhaps he's mended his nasty ways," agreed Duck.

They decided to ask the Fat Controller to help. He telephoned the bus depot and offered to repair Bulgy at the Railway Works. The depot manager agreed to put him back into service. Imagine Bulgy's surprise when Thomas arrived with a flat truck and he was craned up on to it.

"I don't know how to thank you, Thomas!" called Bulgy.

"Just be nice to engines in future! " he replied.

The men at the Works soon had Bulgy looking like a brand-new bus again. His motor was repaired, his torn seats replaced and his red paintwork resprayed. Then Thomas came to take Bulgy back to the bus depot.

"Guess what?" said Thomas. "I hear you're to be a school bus, Bulgy!"

"What?" growled Bulgy angrily. "You mean, carry lots of noisy children all day. Pah! They'll mess up my seats and give

me a headache!"
Thomas was shocked.

"No, they won't!" he said. "Don't be unkind!"
But Bulgy was miserable and grumpy again.

However, he soon cheered up when he noticed the coupling between Thomas and his flat truck was loose. He decided not to tell anyone. Beyond the Works, Bulgy could see the track went round a bend above a grassy slope. Bulgy had a plan. He smiled to himself as he set off on the truck, pulled by Thomas.

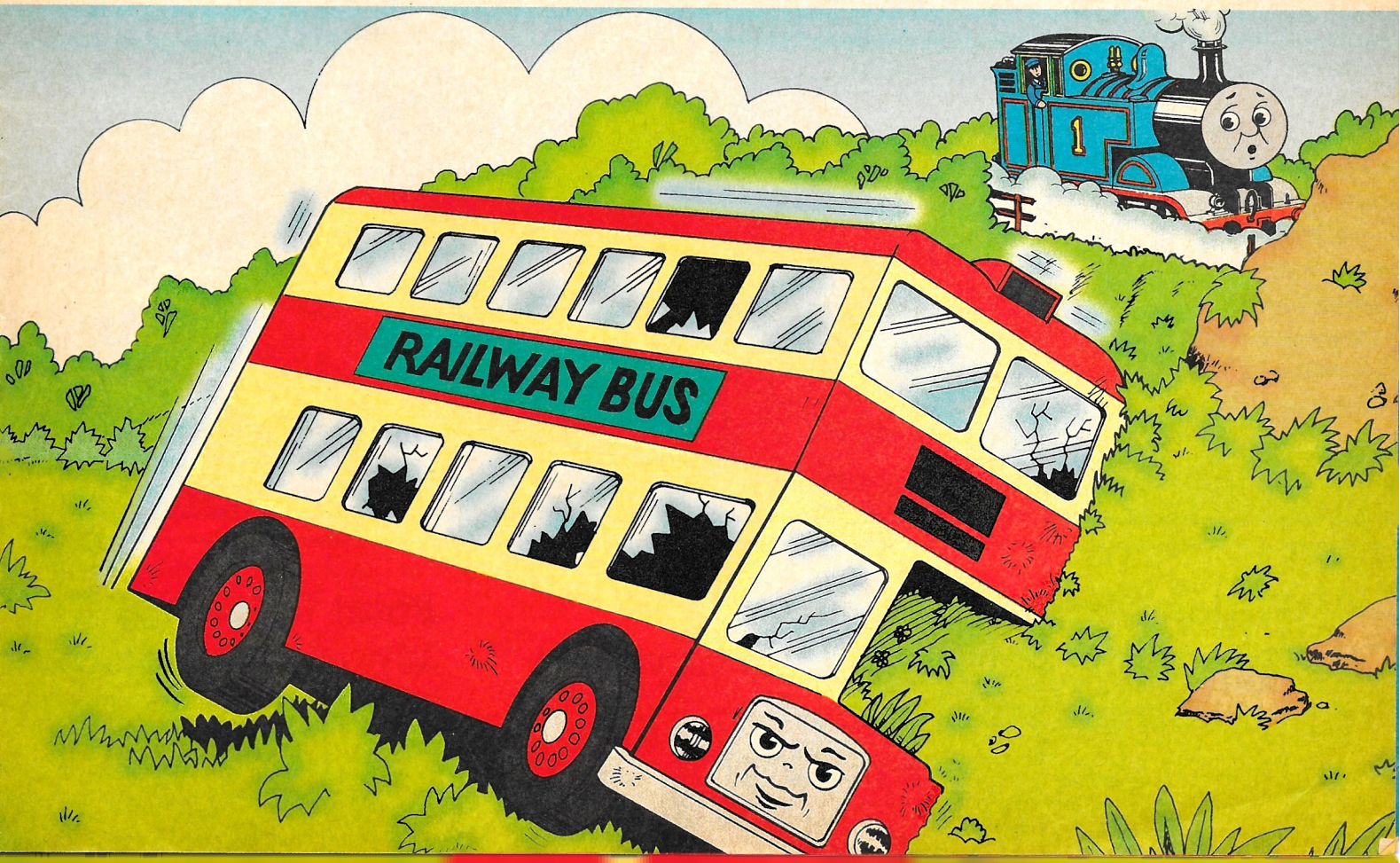
At the bend, the coupling came apart just as Bulgy had hoped. The truck suddenly lurched free. The jolt rocked Bulgy who swayed all the more on purpose so he fell off on to the bank. Bulgy slid all the way down it. Horrified, Thomas's driver applied the brake.

But it was too late! Bulgy was just a wreck of a bus once more. He moaned and groaned, pretending to be upset. But secretly Bulgy was pleased, especially when the depot manager said he would have to be a hen-house again. Next day, Thomas had to stop near Bulgy's bridge.

"Are you all right?" called Thomas. "I'm sorry about what happened!"

"I'm not!" laughed Bulgy. "I've never felt better. I'd rather be a hen-house than a school bus, anyday!"

THE END



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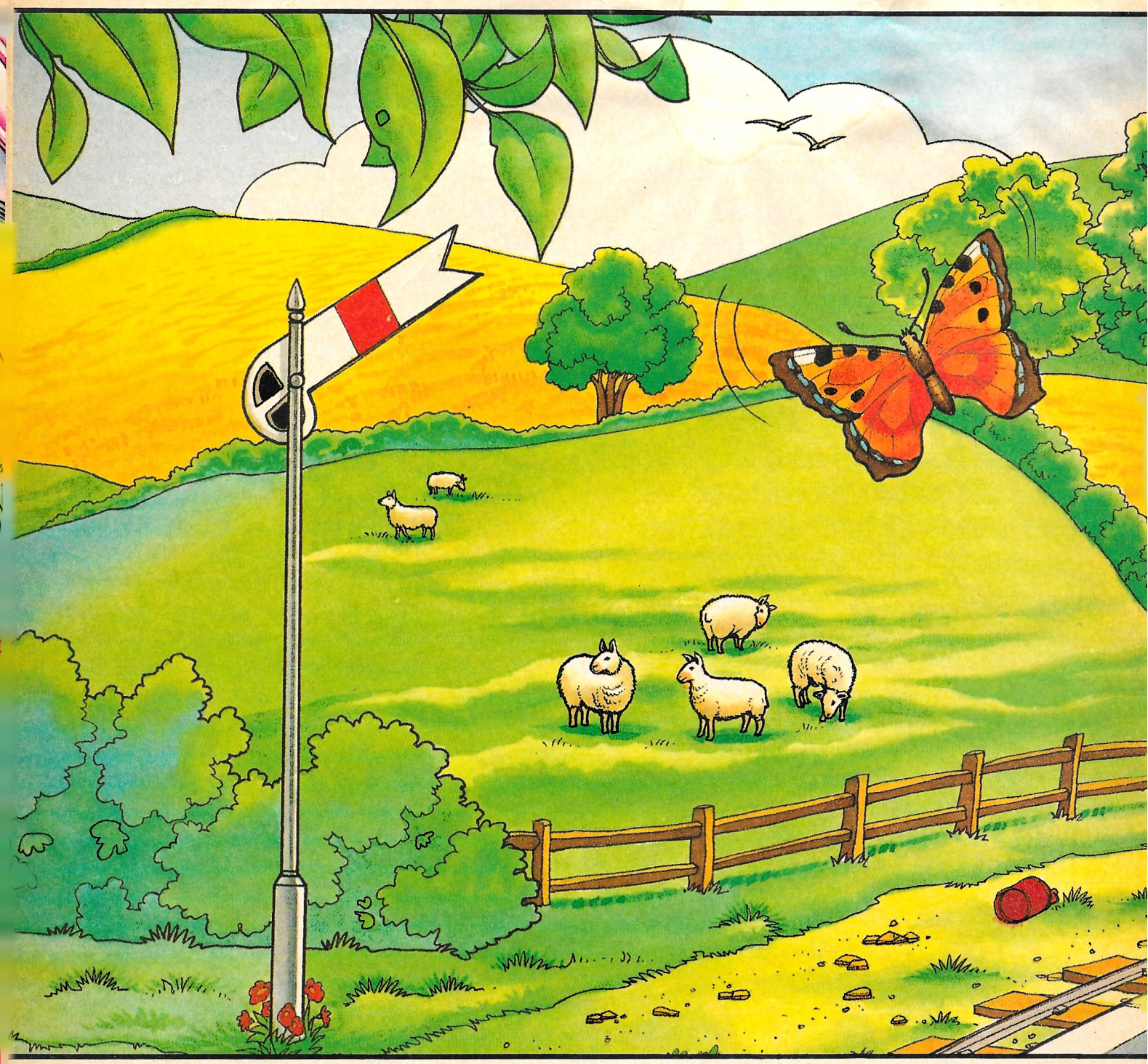
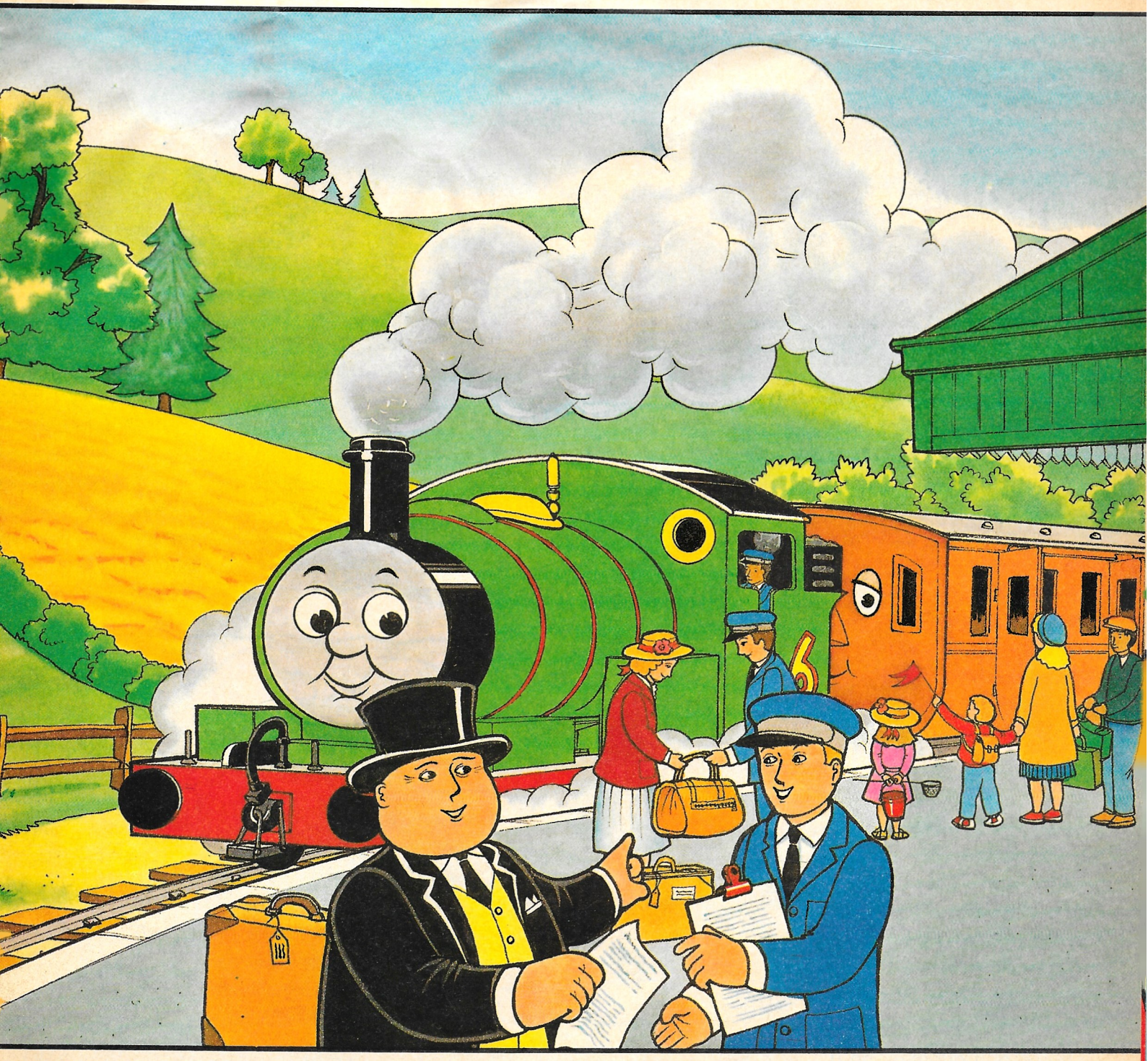


Which engine can you see?
How many stripes does he have?
What is his main colour?
Which coach is he pulling?

Point to the Fat Cont
Who is he speaking
How many sheep co
What colour is the b

me!

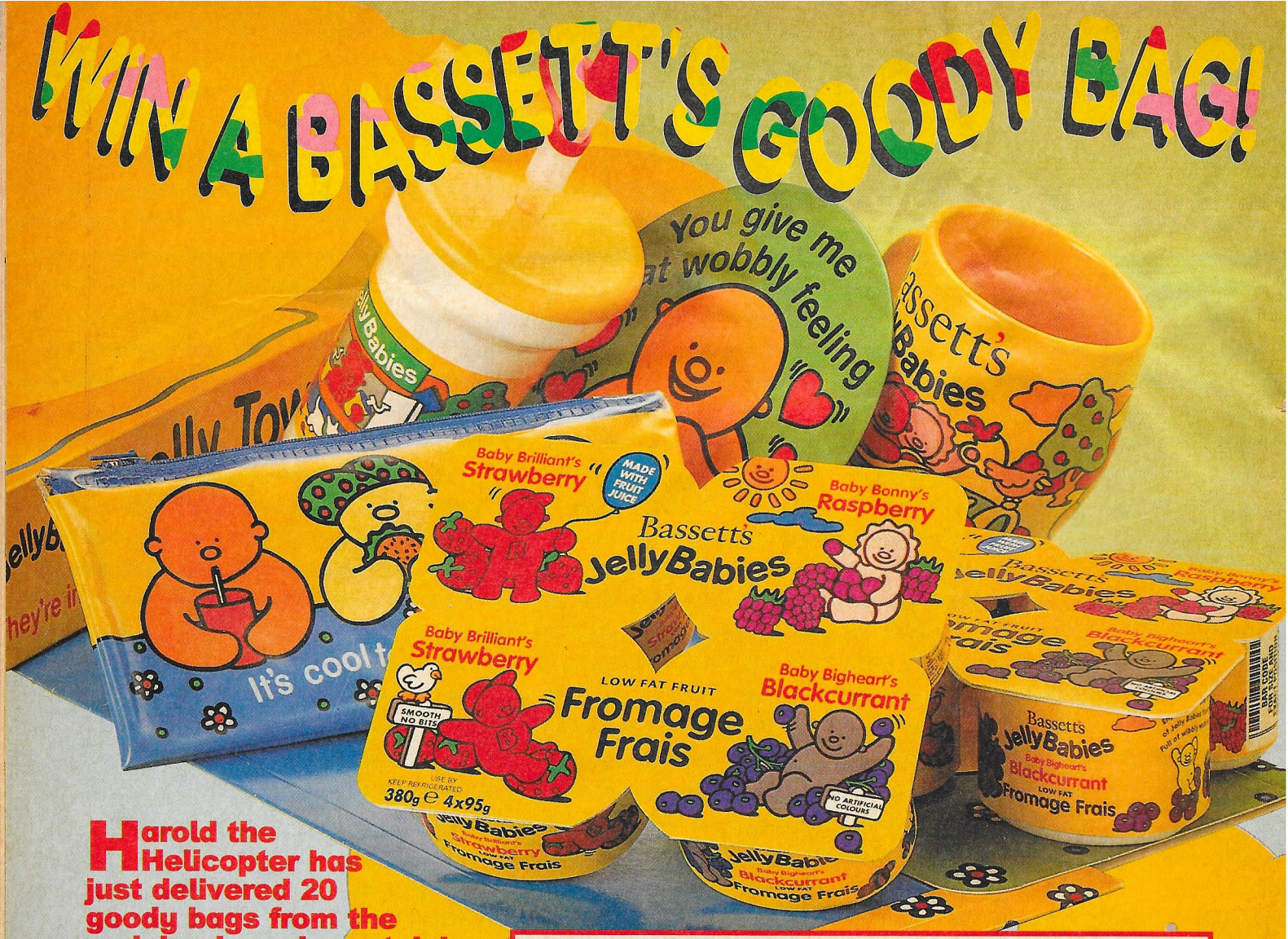


oller!
o?
n you count?
tterfly?

Note for parents
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Back to school!

WIN A BASSETT'S GOODY BAG!



Harold the Helicopter has just delivered 20 goody bags from the mainland, each containing a big badge, a Jellytown game, a pencil case, a folder and a real 'wibbly wobbly' mug. Each goody bag is worth £25.00 and we have twenty to give away as prizes.

For your chance to win one of these prizes just look at the colourful picture of Bassett's Jelly Babies Playground and answer the following question:

What colour is the big balloon which is attached to the slide?

Send your answer along with your name and address, on a postcard to: **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends/Bassett's Jelly Babies Fromage Frais Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2R 3DX by Sept 9th 1994.**

You can also enjoy Bassett's new Jelly Babies Fromage Frais! There are three great flavours to choose from including Baby Brilliant's Strawberry, Baby Bonny's Raspberry and Baby Bigheart's Blackcurrant.

Rules: This competition is open to all readers other than employees of Bassett's Jelly Babies., Team., and Marvel Comics Ltd. All prizes will be distributed by Team. We cannot accept any responsibility for prizes lost or damaged in the post.

JOIN THE DOTS!

Upon my soul! Whatever's that...
On Mr and Mrs Topham Hatt?

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS™

CARRYING CASE

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Not suitable for children under 36 months. Small parts included.

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Please send me the Thomas Carrying Case, I enclose a cheque for £18·49 (£14·99 plus £3·50 P&P). Make cheque payable to "Toys 4 You".

Name _____

Address _____

_____

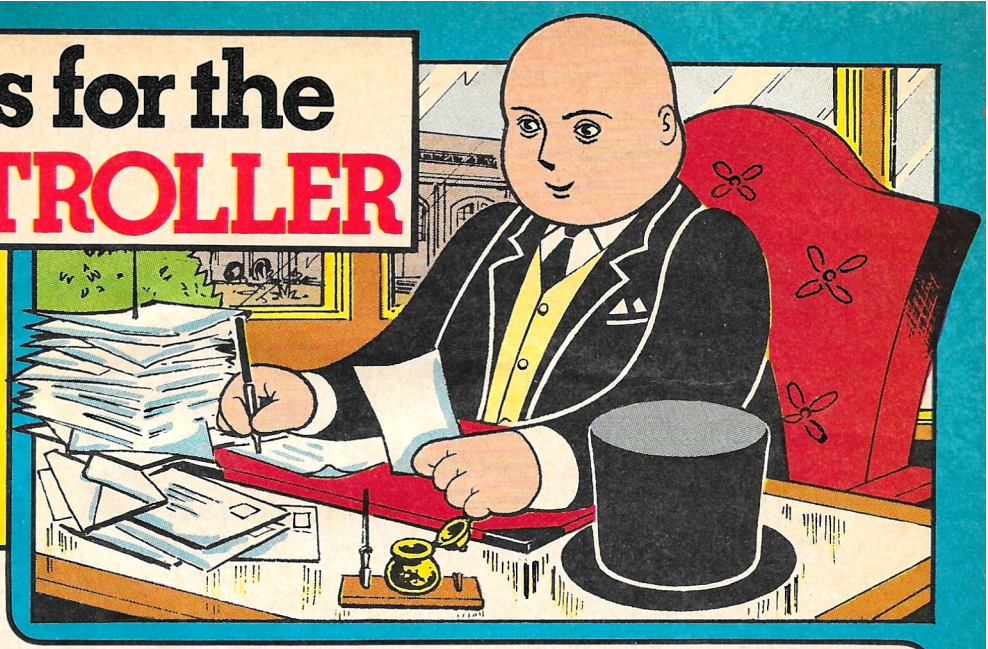
_____ Postcode _____

Allow 28 days for delivery. Offer closes 28th February 1995

ERTL®

Britt BRITT ALLCROFT

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER

Dear Fat Controller,
I know that you are in charge of all the engines, but do you also control Bertie the Bus, Bulgy the Hen-house, Terence the Tractor and Harold the Helicopter, too? I know they are Thomas's friends but they are not engines!

Love from **Michael Shelley,** aged 9.

All those friends of Thomas that you mentioned are all good friends and they are always willing to help each other. I am mainly responsible for all the engines on the railway lines. That's not to say that Thomas's friends can't ever ask me to advise them too!

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

BULGY'S STORY!

Dear Fat Controller,
Mummy and I have just read a story about Bulgy the Double Decker Bus! We would like to know why he was made into a hen-house and why he is so grumpy?

Love from **Matthew Taylor**, aged 2.

Bulgy had a reputation for being miserable and he was often just as mischievous as Diesel! As a result, he often made mistakes. One day, he decided to take a short cut on a return journey. He didn't realise that it was a disused road. He became stuck under a low lying bridge and was badly damaged. As he was now unroadworthy, he was made into a hen-house.

LADY ENGINES!

Dear Fat Controller,
Could you tell me the names of all the female engines and coaches on your railway?

Love from **William Wyatt**, aged 4.

Daisy and Mavis are my two female diesel engines. Annie, Clarabel and Henrietta are the female coaches!

BIRTHDAYS!

Sarah Byron Moore, Jason Vivash, Xavier Hardy, Robert Cunnings, Alain Bates, Joshua Lewis Field, Richard Martin Heath, Matthew Glover, Paul Maalo, Matthew Thomas Kaye, Robert Keywood, Christopher Price, Daniel Gill and Daniel Warren.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a post-card at least **nine weeks** in advance.

Yours,
Sir Topham Hatt

The Fat Controller!

Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

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Child's name..... **Address**.....

.....

.....**Postcode**.....

Date of birth.....

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £..... made payable to **Marvel Comics Ltd.**

Please charge £..... to my Visa / Mastercard

Card number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry date.....

Cardholder's signature.....

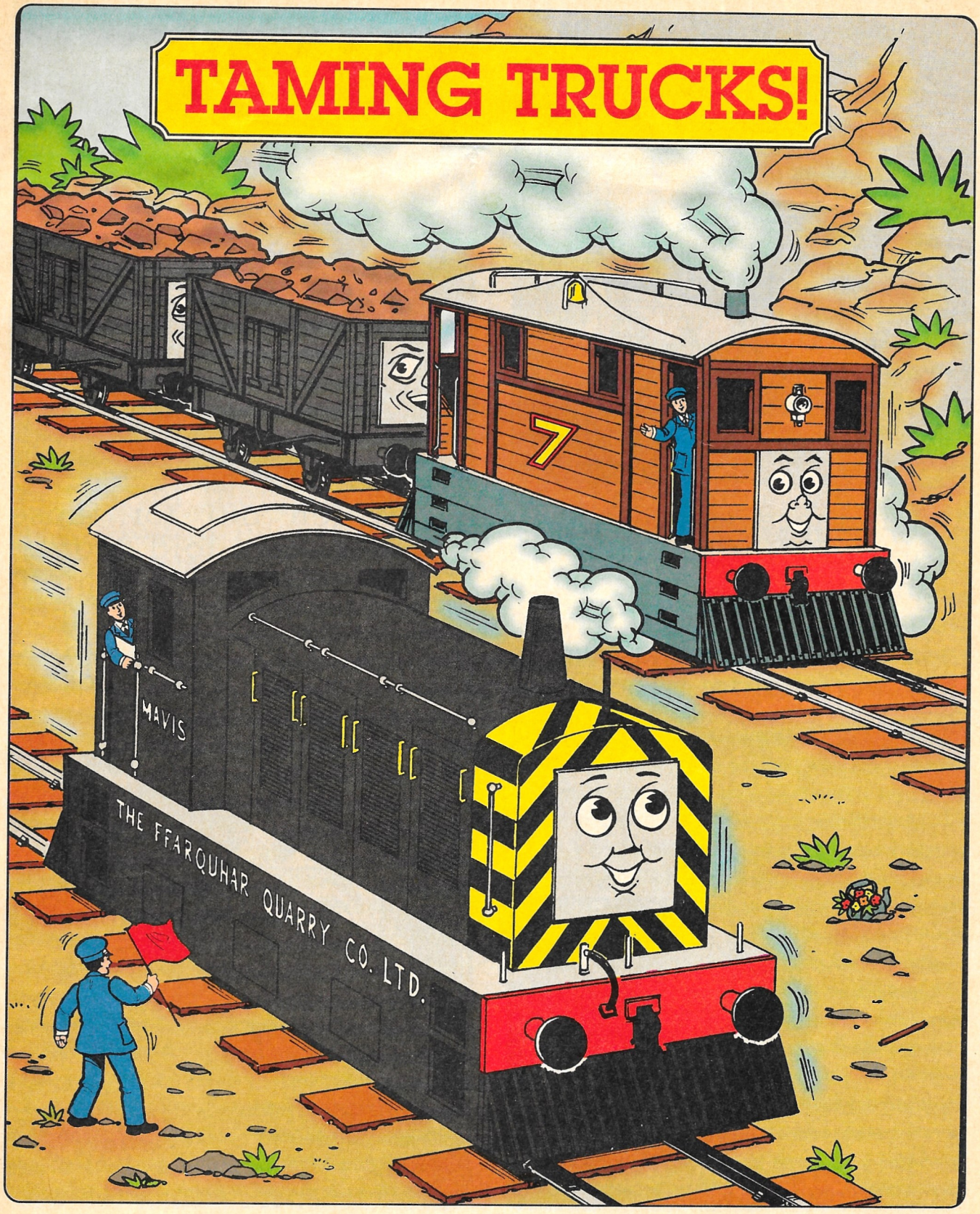
Parent's/donor's name **Mr/Mrs/Ms**.....

Address (if different from child's).....

..... **Postcode**.....

Please send to: **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 OAA.**

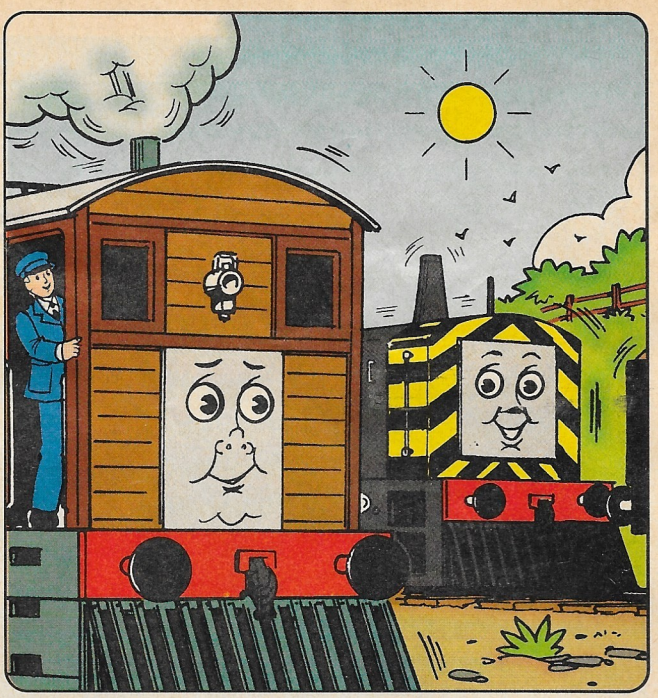
TAMING TRUCKS!



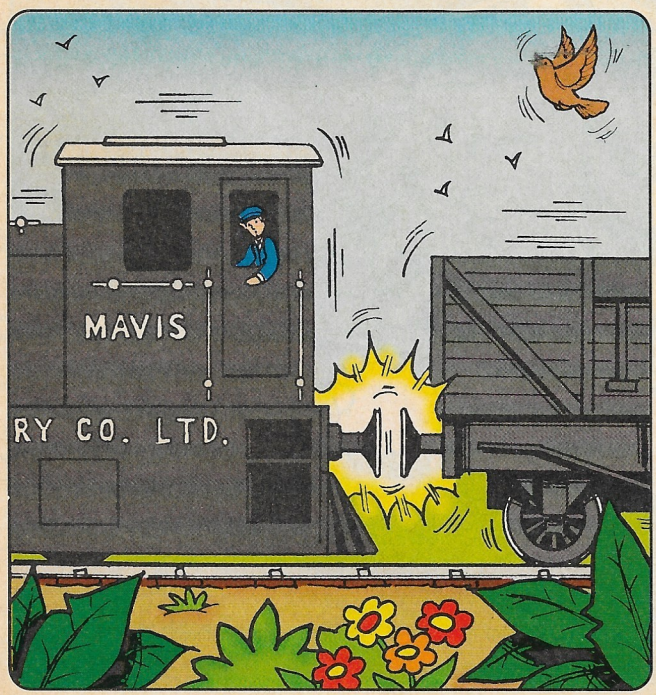
1. Toby the steam-driven tram engine had never been busier or happier. He was enjoying delivering stone to the Big Harbour from his outlying quarry line.

2. The stone was being used to strengthen the harbour wall. So much was needed that Mavis came to help him. "It's nice to have company!" said Toby.

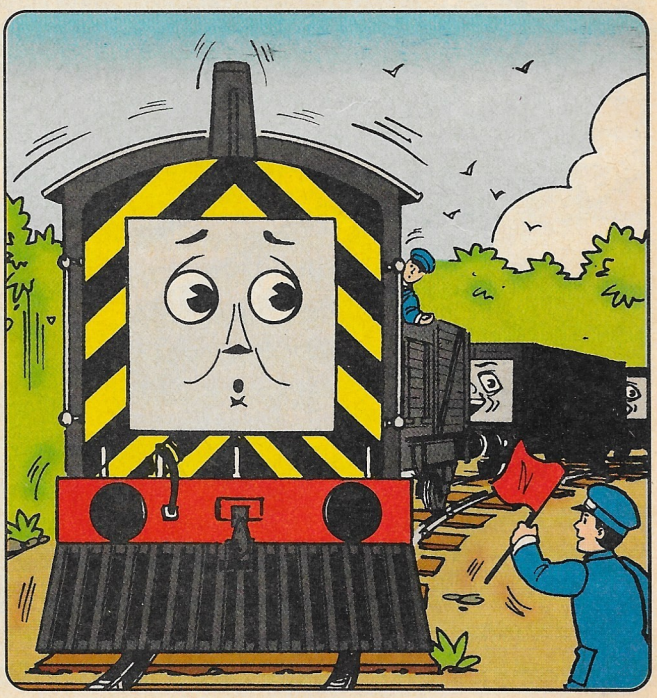
3. But there was just one problem. The trucks were being troublesome. They bumped about naughtily so their heavy loads shifted and they were harder to pull.



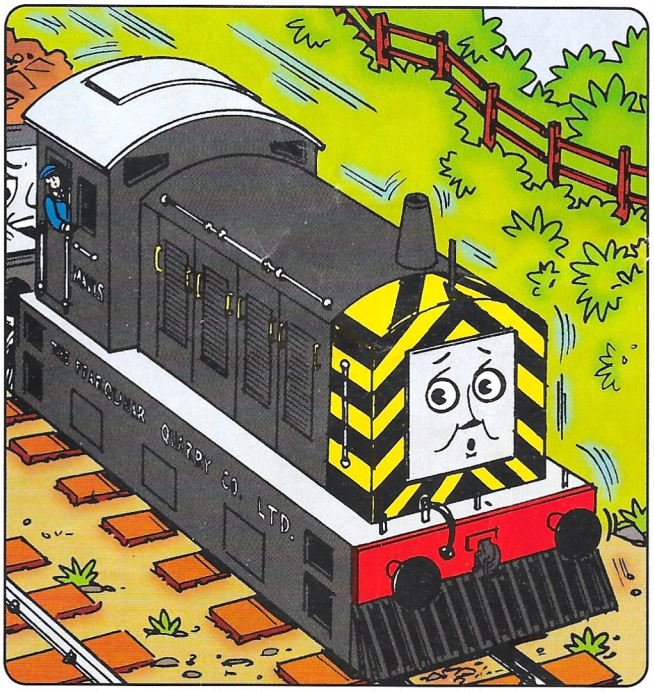
4. "Watch out for those trucks!" Toby told Mavis. "They're up to mischief!" "Trucks won't trouble me!" replied Mavis, but she had much to learn about trucks.



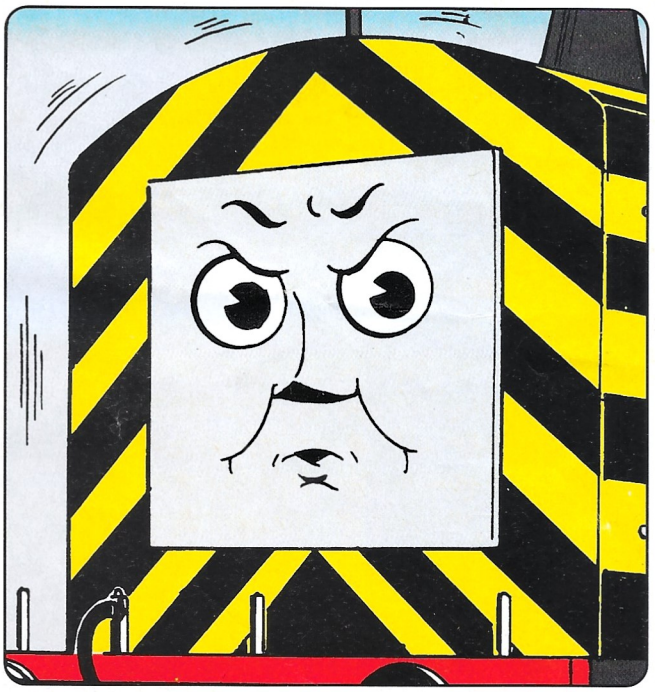
5. "We'll show her! We'll show her!" whispered some empty trucks being coupled to Mavis. They suddenly rolled forward and gave her a nasty jolt. CLUNK!



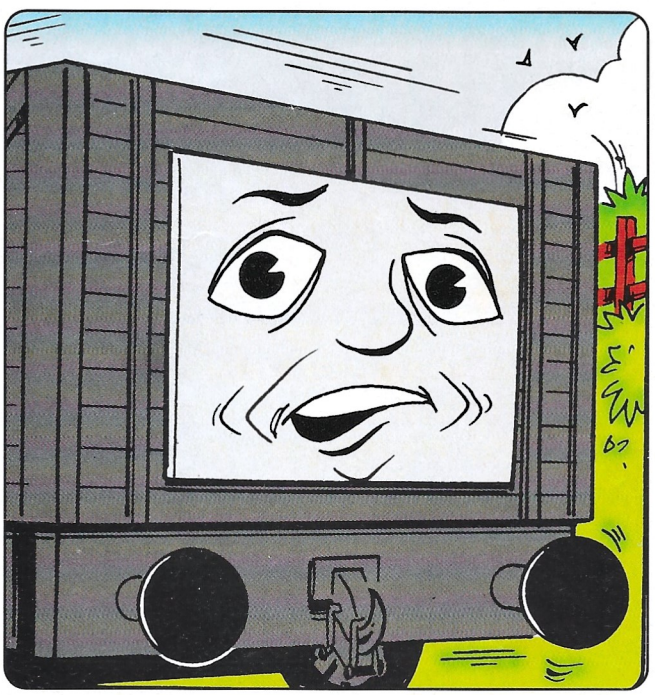
6. "Oh, no! I did try to warn you!" called Toby. Mavis politely asked the trucks to behave. But they laughed rudely then began to bump each other noisily.



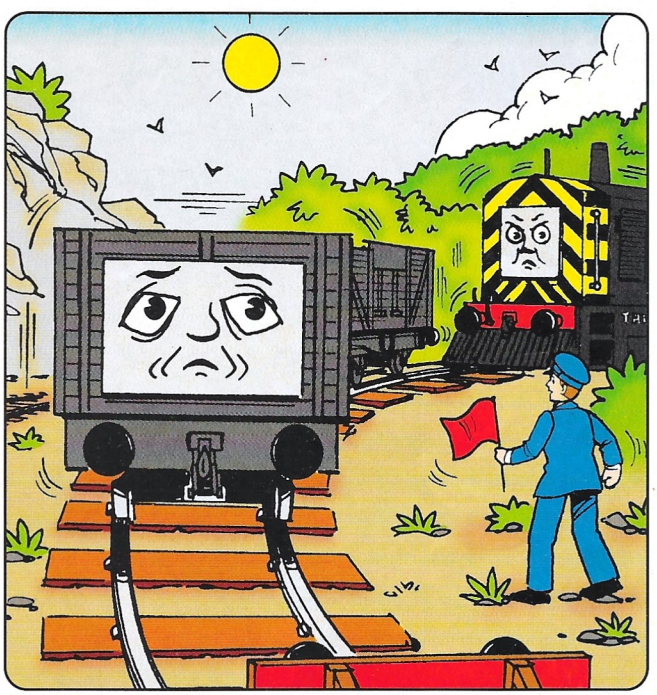
7. One of them rocked so much that a huge stone fell onto the line! Later, they released their brakes going down a hill and pushed poor Mavis making her go too fast.



8. "That does it!" cried Mavis crossly when she returned to the quarry with the empty trucks. "I've had all the truck trouble I can stand. I will have to tell the Fat Controller!"



9. "Sssh! Don't let them hear you or they'll play up even more!" said Toby. "Not if I derail them!" fumed Mavis. The trucks listened and were shocked.



10. "She can't mean it! She can't!" they wailed in alarm. Toby had never seen Mavis so angry. Uncoupled from the line of trucks, she rolled up behind them.

11. Mavis was to shunt them into a siding for reloading. "Watch me push those troublesome trucks on wheels right through the buffers!" she said. "Stop!" shouted the trucks. But Mavis pushed even harder. "We don't want to crash," the troublesome trucks said, as they hurtled helplessly towards the buffers.

12. "Don't derail us and we'll promise to behave!" they pleaded. At the last minute, Mavis put her brakes on. The relieved trucks shuddered to a halt. They didn't know Mavis had cleverly planned to stop just in time. "That's the best way to tame troublesome trucks," she told Toby, with a smile.

THE END

In our next issue: Rolling along!